

JFK BOX 29
FOLDER 16

Berk, Lichtenfels

0003416

SECRET

(1)

Aug 3, 1978 DDO Moore of Weston Brass does

See TSINGTAO - Street I ["Duck"]

11111401

Aug - Sep 1965

Transportation facilities in Tsingtao District

DDO Charles, Leonard Joseph Lasse does

July 1968 Mem for the record

RETURN TO CIA

July Conversation w/ [2] Friends - 1]

Background Use Only
Do Not Reproducea.m.e.d - Leonard J. Charles was released
on June 20 after paying a ransom of \$250,000
(to Haitian Govt) (handprinted in)

Signed [Wilma R. Van Seay]

M.I.

M.I. - Charles, Leonard J.

US Dept of Justice - 403 Miami Fla

See 29 1966 - 203 4/21/23

US address - Consulate General of Haiti, ^{Miami} Fla

July 17, 1966 - 203 - 113/166

US address - Haitian Consul NYC

May 3, 1967 - 203 4/21/23

US address - Wall St Astoria NYC

See 4 1966 - 203 4/21/32

US address - Embassy of Haiti, First DC

US Inter. Info Cable See 19, 1966

Haiti Mid Nov. 1966 Power Jockeying Among

TOP SECRET Civil Leaders

Source - [Haitian student - member of clandestine
Communist Party - Revolutionary Movement] Received

1043-10332

(18)

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(2)

following info from 4 different sources w/ access to
opposition & pro-Duvalier circles including [Ferny
Leroy, private secretary to agriculture⁸ Minister Louis
René Constant.]

11111402
Within Duvalier's entourage are 3 persons vying
for power after the fall of Duvalier. They are Joseph
Léonard Charles - President of Haitian Bank of Commerce
Louis Sénior, Minister of Finance & Lucien Samson
Minister of Public Works. All 3 are outwardly pro-
Duvalierist & there are no signs that they intend to
try and overthrow Duvalier themselves.

Joseph L Charles has the support of former
assistant finance minister Lionel Lépine & Céleste Charles
Minister Gustave N. Constant, plus that of several
businessmen in Port au Prince.

16-8

July 21 1966

3139

Classified Message - 16-8 - 21 July 1966
[Retain Period] 3139
[DRAFT] reported July 19 following
from a high ranking palace source who
claims obtained info from top palace personality
that L. J. Charles traveled to Italy to arrange
contact & payment of \$25,000 to [WFACT] officer
who keeping Duvalier informed re [WFACT]
plans for Haiti (word "word" underlined)

IWS papers - 21/4/66

16003417

U.S. address - In transit

Date & place of admission 6/28/66 NYC

Classified Message June 20 1966

Mr. Claude Ryner, Dr. Roger Lefortant, Port au
Prince know Mme. Frédéric Duvalier's private secretary
Pierre Béginby applied US Consulate 17 June for
transit visa for species museum to London. Dr. Ryner
requested 2 wks stay US going to UK & 2 wks on
SECRET

(3) RS

(3)
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return trip Leonard Charles travelling as inspector for Haitian Embassies & consulates separately transit visa for trip to Europe.

Letter to Dir. of FBI

From: Dir. of Plans

Sub: Charles

11111463

Reference is made to the I-57 request from concerned July who entered US on 3 April 1966. In files of another office of this Agency contain the following info more recent than contained in TSC SSB - 315/00477-64 dated Oct 9 1964. Sub: Inquirer re: The possibility of buying Cigarettes for Haiti.

source (US national) w/ [40 yrs] exper. in [tobacco industry] Charles was specifically referred to as Suc. banker & financial manager. Charles was regarded as being very close to the gang & having ready access to. Sub: Source describes CJC as crook & poor lead & not to be trusted. In 1932 Charles was negotiator on behalf of Haitian govt. w/ E. in England for modernization of Haiti's telecomm system. As a result of this contract - Haiti experienced a great financial scandal - 4 million dollar contract delivered 1 million worth of goods.

Charles was also pres. of Haitian Banana Corp. once operated by Eric Pfeffersau & Col. Prosser - went bankrupt. Charles Rendea Essential Oils Co. ^{also part} death of Louis de Joss. Charles principal ⁱⁿ tobacco industry w/ Henry Sinclair who was director of Haitian Tobacco Monopoly. Is believed to be Charles' hatchet man - no verification.

Ans - 4/11/66

0003418

US address - Haitian Cons. NYC

(2)
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Info Report - CIA. 4005-324/0031-66 SECRET

Sub. Charles

11111404

Source [U.S. National, sales rep for [U.S. tobacco] manufacturer]

in Haiti through attempts to establish business connections, source learned that a reportedly privately owned tobacco is known as Le Tabac Hispano - 54161 directed by CJC a local Haitian who also happens to be Pres. of Commercial Bank in Haiti. This cigarette manufacturer firm is direct descendant of long defunct Haitian Amer. Tab. Co. (name ego - Le Tabac) began ordering mod quantities of leaf tobacco & providing letters of credit to pay for it. First encounter of Charles, source attempted to enlist source's principal's financial backing to the sum of \$300,000 deferred the offer. Offered resume.

1946 - app. controller General of Panama Canal Co. of which he became Gen. Agent in 1948.

1953 - went to London as a Member of Econ Mission sent to Eng. by Haitian Govt & reg. in 1954 a contract of 6E in Country.

1957. app. member of Econ Mission to Inde's conf. held in Durres.

1960 - Created Banque Commerciale d'Haiti of which this is Pres. & dir. It also pres. of 17 other firms & related.

Is exclusive agent for CC Country & 3 other Island countries & is a member of Chamber of Commerce of Haiti

0003419

Bank - List of Companies

Bank of America - San Fran 1st Nat. of Boston

First Nat. City Bank - NY

Boston

Bank of Hanover Trust NY

Bank Am - Miami

Bank of Trust 1st Nat. of Boston, Secy. also

(RS)

SECRET Project, Secy. also

SNS 2-13-68

SECRET

(4)

US address - Haitian consulate NY
SNS - 12/13/64 same -

11111405

Classified Message - Nov. 10 1964

De M mail intercepted announcing death of Entomologist
Savinovici in Brazil.

re: ref B see also [14TPA] 1359 indicate, at least social
contact between ^{Mohammed} Fayed, de M + Welsh up Caleche

CIA Info Cable: Oct 9 1964 Inquires re possibility
of buying aircraft for Haiti.

Place date acquired - US, Miami Oct 7 1964

Source - US citizen who operates bus in Haiti where he en-
joys friendship of many military & govt. leaders & who
is a former military officer & a trained reporter.

"On or about Oct 3 Plot the Aviation Investors
Co of Fort Lauderdale, Fla, received an inquiry about
the possibility of buying a C-119 aircraft for the
Colombian govt. The call was made by Raymond (not
further ID) to Saunders U. Robeson, an aviation
investor & employee, who agreed to investigate the
proposed aircraft purchase.

On Oct 5 Robeson received a telephone call
from a man who ID himself as "Flash" (phonetic)
re: possible purchase of a P-51 aircraft ostensibly
for the Colombian govt, but it was actually in-
tended for Haiti. Robeson agreed to meet w/ "FLASH"
at the Congress Bldg in Miami to discuss both
purchases.

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Source comment: Robeson is a Caucasian born 1917
who once attempted sugar neg in Haiti, where he
became known to several Haitian Govt. officials,
including CJC. Field comment: Unakel source
previously reported that Charles had unsuccessfully
attempted to buy a F-28 aircraft in Argentina

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(P.S.)

See Transfer + Cross Ref.

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(5)

April 24, 1964

11111406

Charles has influence at Suvalier + reportedly ~~is~~ is closely allied with the de M's in their activities in Haiti

See Transfer

May 21 1963

Sub. has returned to Haiti + is seriously ~~using~~ ^{considering} ~~consider~~ as next pres.

Items May 17 1963

At CM request on May 14 1963, S/S Bulay had a farewell interview w/ Haitian banker. Took place at "Hail" room at Park Sheraton Hotel in NY. Charles produced a letter from Mr. Dix Glasserman (40 (WAC St, 12) addressed to ^{H/H} Humphrey according to Charles. Glasserman + H/H are good friends. It was a time of introduction for Charles due to critical period of Haitian relations w/ Castro + that the Admin. might begin to look for men w/ Charles ability. Charles was unable to make another trip to DC to see H/H. He asked his friend + business partner, Jay T. Tropo to present ~~his~~ ^{his} ~~own~~ letter to H/H. Offered to "cooperate w/ US Govt. thru" one of Captain's "old friends"

Charles cousin Joseph J. Charles was a former ambassador of Haiti to US. No promises were made concerning his offer. Signed, Jay B. Reeves

0903421

SECRET

May 10 1963. Memo

SECRET

Apr 29 1963 - Dorothy Mattack, Domestic Esp. Inform ACI telephoned to the effect that a banker named Charles had left Haiti 6 days earlier - had just arrived in NY.

11111407
Joseph Dryer had written to Gen Delmas Commandant GJC to the US about

Mattack alerted Col. Jim Karp in Miami to contact Dryer for > info on backgd of GJC

May 1 1963 Mattack advised GJC staying at Rich Sheraton NY had called since her name had been supplied to him by Dryer. GJC had appts to see LBT, Gen Keateng + Cong Rigors. GJC willing to talk to reps of Mattack's office. Mattack said Haitian desk man would go to GJC & invited Col Karp along. James Saloy accompanied NY office, due to familiarty w/ French language.

May 2 1963 Dryer interviewed by Col Karp in West Palm Beach. Dryer had appt GJC as director of his bank in Haiti.

Charles wanted to see JFK & went to White House received by special appts. See

May 3 1963 Saloy reported a 5 Raus seminar w/ GJC. for obtaining background info. Copies of info sent to ACI w/ des. + Latin Amer Branch.

Meeting held at de M. + GJC - (in prior note) in course of course GJC desired to see Mr. Lewis (Boggs) AID to discuss US and to Haiti. Request passed along to State. Mr. Ragonde had called her back to pass along to the Haitian desk man's extreme displeasure that anyone in the US would be in official contact w/ GJC. Considered GJC Shady, or close to dictatorial. Mays Shunty (delegated by WIT division and as a result of meeting w/ GJC) the DIP/DP that handled and SECRET plan to contact

Wayne Wilson DDP Coordinator called on May 7 to inquire concerning CGC. Said ACSI was concerned that due to set up in app'ts to ~~SECRET~~ CGC, charges might be made that ACSI had ^{obstructed} ~~overperformed~~ of CIA contact of Charles. Later said ACSI was satisfied with handling.

Hallack was of the opinion that US should play ball w/ CGC

signed AF Czajkowski

11111408

Enclosed in open envelope "Plan for the Econ. & Social Dev. of Haiti" by CGC

✓ Gendre - Pardieu - advisor to Banque Comm.
to Mr. Charles (natural father) owns chocolate
factory in PaP. (taken from Summary of Haitian
Meeting Co by Odom)

Booklet - Banque Commerciale d'Haiti w/ pictures
of CGC 1963

DOB 4/21/23

Info Report CGC May 10 1963 00B-3, 260, 765

source - 215 citizen formal journalist
4 hour interview. CGC believes this is the
last chance for US to save Haiti.

list of personal supporters -

Clouis Desir - Sec of Commerce & Industry & a
good friend - (in side pane written - Ambrose T. HARRNETT
(201-345467) told the FBI in Nov 62 that Desir is
one of 2 card carrying Communists in Govt)

Tim Peret - Former Haitian military attack in DC

If CGC was not made president he would accept
Sec of Finance Econ Affairs. Present Sec - Herme
Boyer has leftist tendencies (written in: HARRNETT
described Boyer as the 2nd card carrying commie known
to him)

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Quoted as saying "The tyrant (devalois) may
be killed by the army" before 22, May 1963

May 9 1963 [Contact] kept. SECRET

[21BKNY/11] said that he had encountered CGC at Wash. Nat. Airpt. [REDACTED] CGC was enroute to Chicago, accompanied by Odem although no explan. was given.

signed [Frank 3 Stone]

1111409

Reinfo May 22 1963. Report from Balog
CGC discussed by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Memo May 24 1963. from Balog Dr May 6 1960

① Red private cover up CGC. CGC wanted to deal w/ US officials w/out G. d. m. Feared any indiscretion could result in wife's death. Had just received promise from V.P. of Chase Manhattan NYC for "2 million loan to be used for construction of housing in Haiti.

② Bank in Port-au-Prince

V.P. FBI suggested CGC discuss this matter w/ Edmund Wex, D/D, State Dept. For purpose of consultation w/ Wex + a meeting of "colleagues & friends of Col. Balog" Charles flew to DC on May 7

Memo May 26 1963. Report NY 2147-3 for OO-A(S)

Czajkowski - Balog

The situation concerning CGC returns as just as fluid as situation in Haiti. CGC advised us that his friend of Matlack (see what I mean by fluid?) had changed his travel plans to DC instead of Tuesday he (Balog) now expects to be in DC this Friday. CGC indicated he would be willing to go to DC sometime this week. He asked to see him again this afternoon. Our meeting (the 3rd since this meet) SECRET

SECRET

again this afternoon. Our meeting (the 3rd since
last Thursday) is scheduled at 1430. Bolog (Sgt)
Capt. Bolog US Army to Charles will get in
touch w/ Shultz re: telecon after Bolog-Charles
meeting

1111410

May 3 Memo from Bolog NY-2128-3

At his request on May 3 1968 we had an additional
interview w/ CJC. He informed us he had received a
telephone call from Joe Dryer, Ra. Dryer told CJC
he could not see him over the weekend but would
visit him in NYC next Wed May 8. Prior to
that Dryer plans to meet in DC Jacqueline
Delmas 3130 P St., a friend of Matlack's to
discuss things of mutual interest to Hart.
Then Met Delmas & wife.

Re II Charles DDC from [Matlack]

[secret contact] w/ [] on May 20 1968 [] 5
[] 4

[] told us that (JC is seeking help in raising
the required ransom for his release from prison) from
[] himself [] 1⁵ of B&B Intern'l Corp [] 4⁸
[] 4⁸ [] 5⁵ + Dryer [] 5⁵ Dryer are meeting
during the evening of May 20 1968 after which
[] 5⁵ will take Dryer to airport. Dryer is to fly to
Hart on May 21 1968 [] 5⁵ said Dryer is a friend
of the family of Joseph P. Kennedy

Charles was arrested on May 21, 1968 June 23 1967

Confid Memo May 20 1968 Charles uses pseudonym
"Jacoby" in his confidential cover 0003425

Letter from Charles to Matlack dated June 6 1967
[] 5⁵ thanking her for her kindness in 1963

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Requesting US assurance that the 2 forces (Castro & Baldizier) will be properly neutralized & requests his kind cooperation. Mr. Louis B. Brand hand delivered the letter.

Charles stayed in Cr. 522 Alvar Tower
on May 1963

Secret Memo - Phone call June 27 1967

code used by [CGC + Brand]

Bell + Co - "Major Baldiz + DOD

1st Natl. City Bank NY - US Govt

11111433

DL + Co - George Matlaek

Howard Corp - Col ~~the~~ Burns a former military
and to Pres. Johnson

Business trans - help of US Govt & Charles

"... as far as business is concerned, I received
at my home a rep of Bell + Co. I am very happy now
I think we have no further worry ^{concerning} of the business
transaction. He accepted to sponsor the business
transaction w/ D.L + Co, The Howard Corp + other
business enterprises. This is a very big success & I
hope that w/ the assistance of the 1st City Natl.
Bank we'll make rapid progress. After all our
efforts will not have been in vain & our field
of business activity will be enlarged."

16-8
Classified Message June 28 1967 from [Port au Prince]

Charles' life in danger - relying on US
govt to save him. US flag flies over central
office of Commercial Bank

6003426

June 23 1967. Memo - Report from George Matlaek
George Matlaek has now been put out of
the contact between DLS & Khrushchev
[V.B. - Luis Brand]

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25

SECRET

Yellow Paper Marked Secret: ~~Re~~ ~~Re~~ June 21 1967 (12)

Bob

Mr. Musulin do called to say that Dorothy Matlack had called to inform him that she had reached [Ems. D] that per instructions [Mr. P.] would pass info of Matlack to Bolog in NY. Mr. Musulin said that from his conversation w/ her he believed Matlack wanted to be cut in on this activity & wanted to receive copies of any disseminations.

June 15 1967 1111112
Sensitive Memos - [run] Barron deserves credit

w/ Haiti. Barron who thinks highly of CJC [redacted] he fully supports CJC's plans & he will see LBJ of ASAP.

Memo for Record - June 15, 1967 Agency Contact w/ CJC

Cert contacts w/ CJC, dates back to May 1963 when he was invited in his suite in Hotel Willard to an未知 DC by a rep of WH due to the U.S. decision to talk to some US official. Most persistent of his approaches have been made to DIS/NY where he believes leads him to DDC. He has never offered any evidence that he has some thing going for him and Haiti names he has furnished have meant little or nothing. No hard info has been produced. Fabrication in some cases is obvious. CJC is trying to coerce the U.S. into supporting his phony aspirations.

0003427

INS - 5/3/67

SECRET

US address - 111-101, Astoria - NY

PS